

# Jun Chen

Résumé

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## Education

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### University of Stuttgart, Germany

Postdoctoral researcher, Linguistics

Defended on September 1, 2023

October 2017- October 2023

#### Thesis Title:

On *shi* and *de* in Mandarin: clefts and beyond

**Supervisor:** Professor Dr. Daniel Hole

**Second Supervisor:** Professor Dr. Edgar Onea

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)  
Summer School

August 2019

### Yale University

M.A., Linguistics

September 2015-June 2017

Linguistic Society of America (LSA)  
Summer Institute

July 2015

### State University of New York at Buffalo

B.A., Linguistics (Honors)

September 2011-June 2015

#### Honors Thesis:

Relative Discourse Prominence Correlates with Semantic Change: Evidence from Chinese

**Supervisor:** Professor Dr. Jürgen Bohnemeyer

### State University of New York at Buffalo

B.S., Economics

September 2010-May 2014

### State University of New York at Buffalo

B.A., Finance

September 2010-May 2014

## Peer-reviewed articles (5 in total)

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- **Jun Chen**, Sean Papay. (2023). Sentence-final particle *de* in Mandarin as an informativity maximizer *ESSLLI Student Session Best Papers Volume*
- Dawei Jin, **Jun Chen**. (2022). Towards the copular status of clefts– Evidence from diachrony. *Acta Linguistica Academica* Vol. 69: Issue 3. 301-333. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.
- Dawei Jin, **Jun Chen**. (2019). Meaning change from superlatives to definite descriptions (with Dawei Jin). In collection of M. Cennamo and C. Fabrizio (Eds.) *Current Issues in Linguistic*

*Theory: Selected papers from the 22nd International Conference on Historical Linguistics*. Vol. 348. 479–500. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

- Dawei Jin, **Jun Chen**. (2019). Scalarity, degree reading, and maximality in a Mandarin numeral construction. *Language and Linguistics* Vol. 20: Issue 2. 148-179. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- **Jun Chen**, Dawei Jin. (2018). Meaning Change in Mandarin Chinese: A Numeral Phrase Construction from Adjectives to Superlatives to Definite Descriptions. *Linguistics*, Vol. 56: Issue 3, 599-651. Berlin: de Gruyter.

## Invited talks

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- 2024. 'De outside the cleft: An evidential operator in the C domain'. Chinese Linguistics in Leiden, Institute of Area Studies, Leiden University.
- 2024. 'Exhaustivity from *wh*-questions and *it*-clefts—are they (really not) related?' Syntax-Semantics Colloquium, Department of Linguistics, University of Potsdam.

## Books

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- Dawei Jin, **Jun Chen**. (2022). Copula in focus constructions - A case study of syntactic change in historical Chinese. (with Dawei Jin) Shanghai: Zhongxi Shuju.

## Proceeding papers (6 in total)

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- **Jun Chen**, Sean Papay. (2021). Sentence-final particle *de* in Mandarin as an informativity maximizer (With Sean Papay). In D. Gutzmann and S. Repp (Eds.) *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung*. Vol. 26. Cologne.
- **Jun Chen**, Dawei Jin. (2021). Towards the biclausal status of Chinese clefts: Evidence from diachrony. In J. Benz and Y. Chen (Eds.) *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL)* Vol. 28: Issue 1.
- **Jun Chen**, Sean Papay. (2021). Sentence-final *de* in Mandarin as an informativity maximizer. In M. Y. Pedersen and A. Pavlova (Eds.) *Proceedings of 32nd European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI) 2021 Student Session*. 75-83.
- **Jun Chen**. (2017). Towards a copular approach to Chinese clefts—Evidence from diachronic syntax. *Proceedings of 29th European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI) 2017 Student Session*.
- **Jun Chen**. (2017). Meaning Change from Superlatives to Definite Descriptions: A Semantic Perspective. In J. Kantarovich, T. Truong, and O. Xherija (Eds.) *Proceedings of the Chicago Linguistics Society* 52. 117-131.
- **Jun Chen**. (2016). Discourse Prominence Induces Semantic Change: Evidence from Chinese, In S. Cho (Eds.) *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*: Vol. 22: Issue 1, Article 9.

## Awards

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- ESSLLI 2017 Student Grant
- Linguistic Association of Great Britain (LAGB) 2017 Bursary
- Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Summer Institute 2015 Fellowship
- University at Buffalo Undergraduate Research Excellence Award

## Conference Presentations (22 in total)

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- **Clefts can address *wh*-questions in referential anchoring contexts**  
*Sinn und Bedeutung 29, Consorzio Universitario Mediterraneo Orientale, Italy, September 17-19, 2024*
- **Reassessing the argument-adjunct asymmetry in *wh*-in-situ islands in Mandarin: An experimental investigation**  
*Theoretical East Asian Linguistics workshop, Taipei, May 16-18, 2023*
- **Complex NP island effects are stronger in *why*-questions: An experimental study**  
*Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB), Annual Meeting, United Kingdom, September 6-9, 2021*
- **Sentence-final particle *de* in Mandarin as an informativity maximizer**  
*Sinn und Bedeutung 26, University of Cologne, Germany, September 08-10, 2021*
- **Sentence-final *de* in Mandarin as an informativity maximizer**  
*Student Session of 32nd European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI) August, 4-6, 2021*
- **The Mandarin Chinese *shi...de* construction: Its syntax, semantics and division of labor**  
*Kleinwalsertal Retreat, SFB 732: Incremental Specification in Context Integrated Research Training Group, University of Stuttgart, Germany, July 01-02, 2021*
- **Towards the biclausal status of Chinese clefts: Evidence from diachrony**  
*Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 45, University of Pennsylvania, Mar. 19-21, 2021.*
- **Sentence-final *de* does not contribute to cleft exhaustivity in Mandarin Chinese**  
*Focus Alternatives: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives (FATEP), Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, Feb. 22-23, 2020*
- **Toward the copular status of Chinese clefts– Evidence from diachronic syntax**  
*The 12th International Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics (TEAL-12), University of Macau, China, Jul. 9-10, 2019*
- **Locus of the exhaustiveness reading in Chinese cleft sentences**  
*Exhaustivity in Questions and Answers - Experimental and theoretical approaches, Tübingen University, Germany, 13.-14. June 2019*
- **Experimental Investigation of cleft exhaustivity**  
*Retreat for Students in Semantics and Pragmatics (ReSSP 2018). Olot, Spain, 5-7 October 2018*
- **An experimental investigation of exhaustivity and its trigger in Mandarin focus constructions**

*Kleinwalsertal Retreat, SFB 732: Incremental Specification in Context Integrated Research Training Group, University of Stuttgart, Germany, June 14-16, 2018*

- **Copula and cleft constructions in ancient Chinese— A case study of the diachronic development of three copulas**

*Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB), Annual Meeting, University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom, September 4-7, 2017*

- **Towards a copular approach to Chinese clefts—Evidence from diachronic syntax.**

*2017 European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI) Student Session, University of Toulouse, Toulouse, France, July 17-28, 2017*

- **Toward a presuppositional account of the Cantonese cleft construction**

*25th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL 25), Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary, June 25- 27, 2017*

- **Negative Islands and Indefinite Constraints on Mandarin Chinese Sentence-Final *Le***

*the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) Annual Conference, Beijing Language and Culture University, Beijing, China, July 17-19, 2016*

- **Meaning Change from Superlatives to Deinite Descriptions: A Semantic Perspective**

*Chicago Linguistics Society 52, April 21-23, 2016*

- **Formal Semantics Meets Grammaticalization: A compositional account of the meaning change in Chinese quantificational NP (Cancelled)**

*the 9th Conference of the European Association of Chinese Linguistics (EACL 9), University of Stuttgart, Germany, September 24-26, 2015*

- **Discourse Prominence and Semantic Bleaching: A functional explanation of the superlative-definiteness pathway in Chinese**

*the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) Annual Conference, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea Republic, August, 2015*

- **Discourse Prominence and Semantic Bleaching: A functional explanation of the superlative-definiteness pathway in Chinese**

*International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL), University of Naples, Naples, July 2015*

- **Discourse Prominence and Semantic Bleaching: A functional explanation of the superlative-definiteness pathway in Chinese**

*Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 39, University of Pennsylvania, April 2015*

- **Numeral Nominal Phrase as a Special Case of Referring Expressions**

*Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium (UnderLing), April 2014*

## Teaching (2017-)

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- Joint with Swantje Tönnis: Theoretical and empirical approaches to cleft constructions, in *European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI)*. July 29 – August 2, 2024. Leuven, Belgium.

- Semantics I

[Summer term 2024, 2022]

- Structural courses: Japanese [Summer term 2024]
- Syntax I [Winter term 2024/25, 2023/24, 2022/23]
- Joint with Sean Papay: Constructed languages [Winter term 2023/24]
- Stepping into Minimalist Syntax: from basics to interfaces  
(Master Seminar) [Summer term 2023]
- Formal approaches to discourse particles and speaker-oriented meanings [Summer term 2020]
- Typology I [Winter term 2019/20, 2020/21]
- Professional reading, writing and presenting (Master seminar) [Winter 2021/22]
- Information structure [Winter term 2018/19]
- Contrastive linguistics: Chinese [Summer term 2021, 2018, Winter term 2017/18]
- Structural courses: Chinese [Summer term 2019, 2020, 2022]

## Academic Service

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- Ad hoc reviewing for *Journal of Linguistics*
- *Generative Grammar in the South* (GGS) Workshop,  
May 19-21, 2022, University of Stuttgart (co-organizer)
- *Multiple questions about sluicing* Workshop (co-organizer)
- Monday Colloquia Series, Department of Linguistics, Yale University (co-organizer)
- Friday Lunch Talk Series, Department of Linguistics, Yale University (co-organizer)

## Membership

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Linguistics Society of America (LSA)  
 Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)  
 Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB)

## Fieldwork

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### Fieldwork on Binyang Ping

*Binyang, Guangxi Province, China*

**2016**

### Fieldwork on Miyako Ryukyuan

*Miyako Island, Okinawa, Japan*

**2014**

Organized by Institute on Collaborative Language Research (CoLang) and the Linguistics Dynamics Project,  
 Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

## Skills

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### Natural Languages

- Mandarin (native)
- English (fluent)
- Japanese (fluent)
- German (fluent)
- Cantonese (conversational)

### Programming Languages

- $\text{\LaTeX}$
- R
- Python
- HTML

## Internships

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- Linguistic consultant, Raydon Corporation. [2017]
  - Checking for cultural appropriateness of product content.
  - Co-designing conversational scenarios in authentic Chinese language settings.
  - Providing support to other functional groups to ensure authenticity.
  - Providing additional translation tasks.
- Translator, Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman LLP. [2016]
  - Translating legal documents and conversational materials from Japanese to English.
  - Proofreading translations by others.
- Intern at the auditing department, KPMG [2014]
  - Completed a detailed semiannual analytical report of auditing within a team.
  - Coordinating schedules for group meetings of marketing department heads of the auditing section.